

NOV 55

**SIGNIFICANCE OF FRENCH DESIRE TO DISSOLVE
PARLIAMENT**

1. **ULTIMATELY MEANS NATIONAL ELECTIONS
IN DECEMBER IF COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC NEXT
TUESDAY CONCURS.**
2. **COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO APPROVE THE
CHAMBERS ACTION.**
3. **NO CHANGE IN PRESENT ELECTORAL
SYSTEM--FULL DOZEN ALTERNATIVES HAVING
BEEN SUCCESSIVELY DEFEATED DURING THE
LAST FEW DAYS' DEBATE.**
4. **PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY (330) INCLUDED
ALL OF THE COMMUNIST BLOC PRESENT (94).
VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE MRP (78) AND HEAVY
MAJORITY OF THE INDEPENDENTS AND ARS.**

DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
☒ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 189 Jan 80 REVIEWER:

25X1

~~SECRET~~

5. THE RADICAL SOCIALISTS WERE EVENLY
DIVIDED ~~WITH ANTI-FAURE AND ANTI-MENDES~~
BETWEEN
~~FAURE~~ FAURE AND ~~AGREED~~ MENDES.

6. RADICALS AND MRP PROPONENTS
MOTIVATED IN LARGE MEASURE BY DESIRE TO
ACT RAPIDLY IN ORDER TO HEAD OFF RESURGENCE
OF MENDES-FRANCE.

7. THE COMMUNISTS HOPE TO BENEFIT
BECAUSE OF DISCORD AMONG THE CENTER PARTIES
AND ALSO BECAUSE THEY HAVE GREATER CHANCE
OF ALLIANCES WITH THE SOCIALISTS IF MENDES-
FRANCE UNABLE TO FORM HIS LEFT CENTER
ALLIANCE.

8. ["]PRESENT SCRUTIN DEPARTMENT["]
FAVORS FOREGOING TACTICS EVEN THOUGH FULL
NATIONAL PR SYSTEM WOULD BE THEIR BEST BET,
UNDER WHICH MIGHT GET ADDITIONAL 50 SEATS.
MOREOVER, OVER THE LONG TERM COMMUNISTS

MAY WELL FEEL THAT HEADING OFF A VITAL
LEFT OF CENTER GOVERNMENT, SUCH AS MENDES-
FRANCE MIGHT PRODUCE AFTER A JUNE 1956
ELECTION, WILL BE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE IN
PRESERVING FOR THEM THE CURRENT
IMMOBILISM IN FRENCH POLITICS AS A TARGET.

Chamber Vote on Early Elections		
Party (Se)	For	Against
Communists (98)	92	0
Socialists (103)	0	92
UDSR (24)	6	12
Ind. Out. Mor (16)	12	0
M R P (88)	78	3
Radical (75)	32 (?)	31 MFA binder
Independents (55)	43	5
" Peas. (27)	20	5
Gaullists (69)	5	47
Peasants (21)	10	7
AR S (22)	29	2
Unaffiliated 15	3	7
	330	211